

“The Reminder”

Fairview Center Church
1495 90th Street, Monmouth, Illinois 61462

June 2026

“When he woke Joseph did as the angel of the Lord had directed him.” “So Joseph got up, took mother and child by night, and sought refuge with them in Egypt.” “So he got up, took mother and child with him, and came to the land of Israel.” “His parents were astonished to see him there, and his mother said to him, My son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you.” Matthew 1:24; 2:14, 21; Luke 2:48.

Hi again,

June is Father’s Day. A time to remember good old dad and all he does for the family. Let’s take a look at one of the dads of the Bible that seems to pop up only when there is a crisis, Joseph the earthly father of Jesus. Joseph is mentioned by name some eighteen time in the Gospels, and not one time does he speak. His lack of words adds to his mystery. Each time he appears it is obvious he is more than a simple carpenter. His few mentions only highlight his position as a man of faith who demonstrated protective love and provided stability for his family. Early in the Gospel account we are introduced to Joseph. He is betrothed to Mary and is called righteous, Matthew 1:19. Unfortunately for Joseph, his wedding plans were not going according to plan, for Mary was with child. I am sure the news had been quite a shock to Joseph. I am sure hundreds of thoughts and feelings bombarded his mind. Unwilling to expose Mary to shame, Joseph decides to divorce her quietly. Fatigued from the burden of such a sudden and traumatic crisis, Joseph lay down and tried to sleep. I am sure sleep did not come easily, and Joseph found himself tossing and turning and eventually, in the wee hours of the morning, sleep finally comes. As Joseph sleeps a miracle happen. An angel of the Lord appears to him in a dream, addresses him by name, and reveals the news that Mary’s baby has been conceived through the Holy Spirit and he should not be afraid to take her into his home. No words of protest, no hesitation; only obedience and trust. Joseph does as the angel commands.

During the period between Mary’s revelation and Joseph’s dream, what was Mary’s state of mind? We are not told what she thought, but is there a chance that Joseph’s obedience gave Mary comfort? Did Joseph’s obedience during this time of crisis give Mary peace as God placed this man in her life? I would like to think so. I would like to believe when Joseph invited Mary over and showed her the room he had prepared for them and the living space for the soon-to-be-newborn, she thanked God for bringing this man into her life. Not long afterward, we are told of another crisis. Again Joseph was present and obedient. This time, Jesus, the newborn, had his very life threatened. It would not be the last time people would seek his life. The life of parents of a newborn was no different in many aspects from that of modern day parents. Sleepless nights, changing diapers, waking up in the middle of the night to feed or comfort the crying infant were all part of this routine. But one night would be different. Joseph had another dream. Again the angel of the Lord spoke to him, and told him to take the child and His mother to Egypt and to stay there. Joseph rose, took the child and Mary, and went. Out of obedience to God and protective love for Mary and Jesus, Joseph did the miraculous: he left. Have you ever thought about what this was like for Joseph, to leave his familiar surroundings and travel to a foreign land at a moment’s notice? Did he take his carpentry tools? Did he know the way to Egypt? Did he speak Egyptian? Did he make arrangements for lodging along the way? Was his family aware of his whereabouts? Did he wonder whether his baby and wife would survive the dangerous journey? All these questions remain unanswered. For Joseph, obedient and faithful, if God said “Go,” he went. Just simple faith and obedience. After Herod dies, the same sequence occurs in reverse; this time Joseph was to return to the land of Israel. It does not come as a surprise that he went. Obedient to God’s timing, Joseph kept quiet and was obedient.

The last we hear of Joseph is in Luke’s Gospel, and yes there is another crisis. The holy family has gone to Jerusalem for the Passover celebration. It may help to understand how people traveled back in Joseph’s day, because it is an essential part of the story. When traveling over long distances through rugged and dangerous terrain, there would be a men’s group in the lead, followed by a women’s and children’s group, and picking up the rear would be another men’s group. You would have protection both in front and from behind. Since this was a Passover celebration, it is easy to imagine the whole village of Nazareth traveling together in a group, singing and telling stories as they approached Jerusalem. Joseph would have been in one of the men’s groups, with Mary and Jesus in the middle with the other women and children.

Pastor Mark’s message continued on page 5

Mission Statement:

God’s Servants - John 13:1-11; **Celebrating Christ** - Luke 15:11-32;

Sharing His Love - Matthew 22:34-40; **Making Disciples** - Matthew 28:16-20

If you have an article, story, or picture to share in the Newsletter, please send it to: fairviewcenter@gmail.com

No later than the 20th of the month.

Thank you!

As we continue to broadcast our Worship Service on Facebook Live, there are limitations on what can be streamed. There may be times that the sound will be muted on Facebook Live during the service because it is not legal to rebroadcast certain elements that are copyright protected or may be muted due to confidentiality issues. The sound will return once that part of the service has concluded.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

PLEASE JOIN US!

SUNDAY SCHOOL & WORSHIP

- ◆ Sunday School - 9:00 a.m.
- ◆ Worship Service - 10:00 a.m.
As the weather permits, our Worship Service will be held in the Pavilion.
- ◆ We continue to offer our 10:00 a.m. Worship Service on Facebook Live.
- ◆ Follow us on  at Fairview Center.

Please take a look at the small bulletin board in the Educational hallway to see current newsletters from: Strom Center, Henderson Settlement, Galesburg Rescue Mission, Navigators, Athletes in Action and Long Journey in Thailand.



Visit our Church Library!
There are lots of great books to read!

Fairview Center Church

Fairview Center Women’s News:

Monday, June 8th: Mary Circle will meet 11:30 a.m. at Pizza Hut in Monmouth.

Hostess: Janet Sipes

Lesson Leader: Lois Brechbiel

Lesson: “ Never Stop Learning”, page 49.

Thank you so much for the gift cards collected for Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House and Cunningham Children’s Home. We know they will be put to good use! We appreciate your generous participation!
Mary Circle, UWF



Quilters: Fairview Center Church Quilters meet every Tuesday from 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm at Alyce Jenks’ home.

Fairview Center Church Men’s News:

Sunday, June 21st: Men’s Devotional Group will meet at 8:00 a.m. Donuts and coffee will be served.

2026 Community Care Days Work Weekend



Friday, June 12th and Saturday, June 13th.

If you are interested in helping out with this important community event, please see Stan.

Fairview Center Church
2026 Head Usher Upcoming Schedule
June: Craig Long
July - August 9th: Chad Long
August 16th - September: Brian Postin
October - November 8th: Blake Burns
November 15th - December: Adam Martin

Thought for June:
Daily goal:
Be better than I was yesterday.

Prayers & Concerns

Fairview Center is....**Prayerful!** In this world today, I think everyone would agree with me that there is a lot of prayer needed. Do I hear an amen? Please continue to pray for our country and its leaders, our military and their families, those who struggle with poverty and the homeless, Christians under persecution, our state and local government leaders, the lonely and disheartened, our elderly, healthcare providers, and those who have not experienced the joy of knowing Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. During worship we have also been praying for a number of people. Please continue to pray for:

Those affected by the COVID virus; political and civil unrest in our country; those battling cancer-families & caregivers; students, parents, and school personnel; and those with unspoken concerns.

Please help us keep this prayer and concern list up-to-date. Please let us know of a misspelled name. Also, let us know if someone has returned to good health. We want this list to be accurate and current. Send information to: fairviewcenter@gmail.com Thank you!

Jay & Alice Benoit
 Charlie Burns
 Donald Canada
 Russell Carlson
 Mindi Allbee-Diemer
 Jane Dolieslager
 Diane Hawk
 Bonnie Inman
 Carol Jenks
 Matthew Kuehn
 Dorothy Long
 Lowell Long
 Lynn Long
 Becky Marshall
 Raquel Mercer
 Jim McCrary
 Emily Ray McIntyre

Mike McNall
 Dana Moon
 Lindsay Murdock
 Kenny O'Brien
 Steve Rennison
 Craig Rima
 Blaine Robinson
 Lana Schiefer
 Eldon Sipes
 Lane Sipes
 Elaine Slaughter
 Russell Stewart
 Barbara Goff Thomas
 Russell Trulson
 Raven Vank
 Owen Wyatt
 Joyce, Julie VanSlike's mom

The homeless, afraid, and lonely.
 Those with unspoken concerns.
 Those devastated world wide by severe weather.
 Senseless violence throughout our country.
 Senseless violence throughout the world.



**If you have immediate need to prayer,
 please call Pastor Mark
 at 815-531-9081.**

New devotionals are available:

UPPER ROOM - May & June (regular print)

UPPER ROOM - May & June (large print)

OUR DAILY BREAD - June/July/August (regular print)

These publications can be picked up on a table located in the Education Wing Hallway or on the table located inside the west entryway. If you would like one delivered to you, please send an email to: fairviewcenter@gmail.com or call the church at 309-734-2300. Tell us which devotional(s) you would like and the best time for them to be delivered.

Please help us keep the prayer list up-to-date.

Contact the church if you would like to add a name, make a correction, or remove a name.

“Celebrating Our Special Days”

June Birthdays

- | | |
|--|--|
| 2. Megan Jenks | 26. Nicholas Cidella |
| 3. Carole Korns
Mark Robinson | John Endsley
Alex Olson |
| 4. Jayden Kunkle
Madeline Poole | Randy Wright |
| 5. Amanda Folkerts
Caitlin Jenks | 28. Russell Carlson
Janet Sipes
Jerry Smock |
| 6. Judy (Jenks) Gilliland
Wes Olson | 29. Al Kulczewski |
| 8. Shirley Bonynge | 30. Wendy (Stewart) Brokaw
Colin Jenks
Dean Stewart |
| 9. Janet Bogener
Joyce Conway | |
| 10. Easton Murdock - Hull | |
| 11. Samantha (Sipes) Drapela | |
| 12. Erin Endsley | |
| 14. Morgan Lloyd | |
| 15. James Carlson
Calvin Long
Carol Parrish
Sawyer Tatman | |
| 19. Derek Bass
Connie Loving | |
| 20. Susan Owens | |
| 21. Vicki Reid | |
| 22. Tye Howver | |
| 23. Steven Bonynge
Dave Bost | |
| 24. Landon Conard
Kellie (Winbigler) Kiner
Jonathan Shimmin | |
| 25. Caroline (Jenks) Ault
Ethan Kozak
Rosa Kuhnkey
Rev. Janet Roy | |



June Anniversaries

1. Mark & Abbie Ray '02
3. M/M Bill Slater '95
4. Tom & Cindy (Long) Pepmeyer '88
6. Jeff & Carol Jenks '81
Karl & Cheryl (Long) Kuppler '81
8. Tom & Jill Jenks '02
9. Jared & Rachel (Jenks) Kunkle '07
10. M/M Brandon Kuhnkey
11. M/M John Frost '77
M/M Rob Lawrence '66
14. John & Marla Johnson '75
15. Chris & Julie (Jenks) Kettmann '02
18. Pastor Mark & Tina Canada '83
19. M/M George Sprout '71
20. M/M Eldon Sipes '81
22. Stan & Kay (Sprout) Jenks '75
26. Doug & Sue Ray '83
27. Roger & Karen Mansfield
29. M/M Mike Jones '96
30. Dick & Esther (Gibson) Liesemer '63

June Baptism Birthdays

- Madeline Higbee 06.06.2004
Kelly Shimmin 06.10.1984
Michelle Sprout 06.11.1989
Cameron Postin 06.13.2020
Melissa Poole 06.24.2001

Happy heavenly birthday to all our family and friends.

*“Your life was a blessing,
your memory a treasure.
You are loved beyond words
and missed beyond measure.”*

- Renee Wood

Please notify the church office of any names which need to be added, corrected, or removed.

Thank you!

Pastor Mark's message continued from page 1.

It is easy to see how Mary and Joseph could have easily assumed that Jesus was with the other. After all, at twelve, Jesus was on his way to becoming a man, and it would have been easy for him to move up into the men's group. After a day's travel, Mary and Joseph stopped, that is when they discovered Jesus was not with them. Mary and Joseph began their frantic search for their son among relatives and fellow travelers. Only parents can relate to the panic that must have caused. After three days, they find Jesus in the Jerusalem temple. It is Mary, with Joseph at her side, who speaks. Neither Mary nor Joseph understood Jesus' response, but it was Mary, who treasured all these things in her heart. I wonder what Joseph thought. Did he treasure these things? Perhaps remembered is more accurate.

Words are important and powerful, but often a strong example communicates more than any words can. Joseph is an example of the guardian of Jesus and protector of Mary. His attentiveness to God is impressive. He heard the voice of God and acted upon it. Joseph was a man who displayed protective love during times of crisis. The kind of man and father we all need to be.

Your fellow servant,

Pastor Mark



OCC Shoebox Ministry

We will once again be packing shoebox gifts for Operation Christmas Child. Start looking for school supplies and other items on sale. We plan to pack 300-350 shoeboxes this year. We are seeking someone who would like to work as project leader with Tina this year. Prayerfully consider this opportunity.

VBS 2026: Power UP

Vacation Bible School will be offered each Sunday in June at 9:00 a.m. in the Pavilion. This year's theme, Power Up, focuses on the Holy Spirit. Lessons focus on the Holy Spirit as unseen guest, comforter, teacher and power source for Christians. There will be crafts and games. An all-church luncheon will follow outdoor worship each week.

Sunday, June 21st

Is an important day! It is:

Father's Day, the First Day of Summer, and National Selfie Day!

The Church Mouse has some fun - fact trivia questions for you:

1. Father's Day is celebrated on the ____ Sunday in June in the United States and many other countries. (second or third).
2. Father's Day is the _____-largest card-sending holiday in the United States. (third, fourth or fifth).
3. In the United States, Father's Day became an official holiday in _____ (1971, 1972 or 1973).
4. On Sunday, June 21, 2026, the summer solstice marks the first day of summer in the Northern Hemisphere, bringing the _____ day and _____ night of the year (Longest and shortest OR shortest and longest.)
5. Thunderstorms are _____ common in the summer (most or least).
6. The Oxford English Dictionary named "selfie" as the Word of the Year in _____ (2011, 2012, or 2013).
7. Who takes more selfies, women or men?
8. Approximately how many selfies are captured daily worldwide? (1.8 million, 54 million or 93 million).

Happy Father's Day!

Be sure to take a selfie with your dad outside in the summer sunshine!